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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/587,513

04/25/2007

Toshihisa Nakano

2006_1239A

2481

52349

7590

07/20/2009

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK L.L.P.

1030 15th Street, N.W.

Suite 400 East

Washington, DC 20005-1503

EXAMINER

VAUGHAN, MICHAEL R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2431

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/20/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/587,513	Applicant(s) NAKANO ET AL.	
	Examiner MICHAEL R. VAUGHAN	Art Unit 2431	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on **6/12/09** has been entered.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 17-21 are amended. Claim 22 is added.
Claims 1-22 are pending.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 9, 17, 18, and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USP Application Publication 2004/0030898 to Tsuria et al., hereinafter Tsuria in view of USP 6,469,239 to Fukuda.

As per claim 1, Tsuria teaches a terminal device for transferring a right to use content to a portable medium while protecting a copyright of the content, comprising:

a storage unit storing first encrypted content, a device key, and a medium key, the first encrypted content being generated by encrypting the content (0009);

a decryption unit operable to decrypt the first encrypted content using the device key, to generate the content (0009);

a conversion unit operable to convert the generated content, to generate converted content (0024);

an encryption unit operable to encrypt the converted content using the medium key, to generate second encrypted content (0011 and 0021);

a write unit operable to move the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium, and read the device key from the storage unit and write the read device key to the portable medium (0011 and 0054-0055); and

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a key deletion unit operable to delete the device key from the storage unit (0011 and 0032) thereby preventing the decryption unit from decrypting the first encrypted content (0014),

wherein the storage unit continues to store the first encrypted content irrespective of whether the device key has been deleted or not (0059). Tsuria is silent in disclosing the generated converted content is unable to be restored to the content. Fukuda teaches this abovementioned limitation (col. 21, line 65-col. 22, line 40). Fukuda teaches that when a user wants to copy music to another device, the copying device deteriorates the music to prevent illegal copying of the data. The music is compressed to ensure exact copies are not made. Combining known prior art elements, according to known methods to yield predictable results, is obvious and within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions.

As per claim 2, Tsuria teaches wherein the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the storage unit after the write unit writes the device key to the portable medium (0054), and

the write unit moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium after the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the storage unit (0055).

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As per claim 3, Tsuria teaches wherein the storage unit further stores key information for encrypting the device key, the encryption unit further encrypts the device key using the key information (0055);

and the write unit writes the encrypted device key to the portable medium, as the device key (0058).

As per claim 4, Tsuria teaches a read unit operable to read the encrypted device key from the portable medium, wherein the decryption unit further decrypts the read encrypted device key using the key information to generate the device key, and stores the generated device key to the storage unit (0058).

As per claim 5, Tsuria teaches an embedment unit operable to embed the device key in the converted content, to generate key-embedded content (0055),

wherein the encryption unit encrypts the key-embedded content using the medium key, to generate the second encrypted content (0058),

the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the storage unit after the embedment unit embeds the device key in the converted content (0059), and

the write unit moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium after the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the storage unit (0060).

As per claim 6, Tsuria teaches an extraction unit operable to extract the device key from the key-embedded content, and store the extracted device key to the storage unit, wherein a read unit reads the second encrypted content and the medium key from the portable medium (0061), and

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the decryption unit further decrypts the read second encrypted content using the read medium key to generate the key-embedded content, and outputs the generated key-embedded content to the extraction unit (inherent that the 2nd device is able to read the newly received encrypted data as evidenced by its ability to repeat the process to a third device).

As per claim 7, Tsuria teaches a read unit operable to read the device key from the portable medium, wherein the read unit stores the read device key to the storage unit (0060).

As per claim 8, Tsuria teaches a reproduction unit operable to reproduce the content, wherein the decryption unit further reads the first encrypted content and the device key from the storage unit, decrypts the read first encrypted content using the read device key to generate the content, and outputs the generated content to the reproduction unit (0013).

As per claim 9, Tsuria teaches a content protection system for transferring a right to use content from a terminal device to a portable medium while protecting a copyright of the content, the terminal device comprising:

a first storage unit storing first encrypted content, a device key, and a medium key, the first encrypted content being generated by encrypting the content (0009);
a decryption unit operable to decrypt the first encrypted content using the device key, to generate the content (0009);

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a conversion unit operable to convert the generated content, to generate converted content (0021);

an encryption unit operable to encrypt the converted content using the medium key, to generate second encrypted content (0011 and 0021);

a write unit operable to move the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium, and read the device key from the first storage unit and write the read device key to the portable medium (0011); and

a key deletion unit operable to delete the device key from the first storage unit, and the portable medium comprising (0011) thereby preventing the decryption unit from decrypting the first encrypted content (0014)

a second storage unit operable to store the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content received from the terminal device (0017),

wherein the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the first storage unit after the write unit writes the device key to the second storage unit (0054), and

the write unit moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium after the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the first storage unit (0055) wherein the storage unit continues to store the first encrypted content irrespective of whether the device key has been deleted or not (0059).

Tsuria is silent in disclosing the generated converted content is unable to be restored to the content. Fukuda teaches this abovementioned limitation (col. 21, line 65-col. 22, line 40). Fukuda teaches that when a user wants to copy music to another device, the copying device deteriorates the music to prevent illegal copying of the data.

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The music is compressed to ensure exact copies are not made. Combining known prior art elements, according to known methods to yield predictable results, is obvious and within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions.

As per claim 10, Tsuria teaches wherein the terminal device further comprises: a read unit operable to read the device key from the second storage unit, the read unit stores the read device key to the first storage unit, the portable medium further comprises:

a deletion unit operable to delete at least one of the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit, and

the read unit reads the device key from the second storage unit after the deletion unit deletes the at least one of the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit (0059-0061). It is inherent that the receiving terminal can reverse the encryption process to generate content. The terminal both reads and writes to the portable medium. Therefore it is able to perform sending and receiving which are reciprocal processes to one another.

As per claim 11, Tsuria teaches wherein the first storage unit further stores key information for encrypting the device key (0051),

the encryption unit further encrypts the device key using the key information,

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the write unit writes the encrypted device key to the second storage unit as the device key, and after writing the encrypted device key, moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the second storage unit (0057), and

the second storage unit stores the encrypted device key as the device key (0058).

As per claim 12, Tsuria teaches wherein the terminal device further comprises: a read unit operable to read the encrypted device key from the second storage unit, wherein the decryption unit further decrypts the read encrypted device key using the key information to generate the device key, and stores the generated device key to the first storage unit (0058), the portable medium further comprises:

a deletion unit operable to delete at least one of the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit, and

the read unit reads the encrypted device key from the second storage unit after the deletion unit deletes the at least one of the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit (0059-0061). It is inherent that the receiving terminal can reverse the encryption process to generate content. The terminal both reads and writes to the portable medium. Therefore it is able to perform sending and receiving which are reciprocal processes to one another.

As per claim 13, Tsuria teaches an embedment unit operable to embed the device key in the converted content, to generate key-embedded content (0055),

the encryption unit encrypts the key-embedded content using the medium key, to generate the second encrypted content (0058),

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the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the first storage unit after the embedment unit embeds the device key in the converted content (0059), and

the write unit writes the medium key and the second encrypted content to the second storage unit after the key deletion unit deletes the device key from the first storage unit (0060).

As per claim 14, Tsuria teaches the terminal device further comprises:
an extraction unit operable to extract the device key from the key-embedded content, and store the extracted device key to the first storage unit,

a read unit reads the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit,

the decryption unit further decrypts the read second encrypted content using the read medium key to generate the key-embedded content, and outputs the generated key-embedded content to the extraction unit (inherent that the 2nd device is able to read the newly received encrypted data as evidenced by its ability to repeat the process to a third device), and

the portable medium deletes the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit after the terminal device reads the second encrypted content and the medium key from the second storage unit (0061).

As per claim 15, Tsuria teaches a mobile information terminal,
wherein the mobile information terminal reads, from the portable medium in which the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content are stored in the second storage unit, the second encrypted content and the medium key, decrypts the read

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second encrypted content using the read medium key to generate the converted content, and reproduces the converted content (0060).

As per claim 16, Tsuria teaches another terminal device connected with the terminal device,

wherein the another terminal device comprises: a read unit operable to read, from the portable medium in which the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content are stored in the second storage unit, the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content (0059);

a deletion unit operable to delete at least one of the medium key and the second encrypted content read by the read unit; and

an acquisition unit operable to acquire the first encrypted content from the terminal device, after the deletion unit deletes the at least one of the medium key and the second encrypted content, the portable medium moves the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content to the another terminal device (0060), and

the terminal device further comprises:

a transmission unit operable to transmit the first encrypted content to the another terminal device; and a content deletion unit operable to delete the first encrypted content from the first storage unit (0061).

As per claim 17, Tsuria teaches a portable medium for receiving a right to use content from a terminal device while protecting a copyright of the content, the terminal

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device including: a storage unit storing first encrypted content, a device key, and a medium key, the first encrypted content being generated by encrypting the content; a decryption unit operable to decrypt the first encrypted content using the device key, to generate the content; a conversion unit operable to convert the generated content, to generate converted content (0024); an encryption unit operable to encrypt the converted content using the medium key, to generate second encrypted content; a write unit operable to move the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium, and read the device key from the first storage unit and write the read device key to the portable medium; and a key deletion unit operable to delete the device key from the first storage unit (0049-0050)

wherein the storage unit continues to store the first encrypted content irrespective of whether the device key has been deleted or not (0059),

the portable medium comprising:

a storage unit operable to store the device key, the medium key, and the second encrypted content (0051).

Tsuria is silent in disclosing the generated converted content is unable to be restored to the content. Fukuda teaches this abovementioned limitation (col. 21, line 65-col. 22, line 40). Fukuda teaches that when a user wants to copy music to another device, the copying device deteriorates the music to prevent illegal copying of the data. The music is compressed to ensure exact copies are not made. Combining known prior art elements, according to known methods to yield predictable results, is obvious and within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed

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elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions.

As per claim 18, Tsuria teaches a content movement method used in a terminal device for transferring a right to use content to a portable medium while protecting a copyright of the content, the terminal device storing first encrypted content, a device key, and a medium key, the first encrypted content being generated by encrypting the content (0009), the content movement method comprising:

- a decryption step of decrypting the first encrypted content using the device key, to generate the content (0009);

- a conversion unit operable to convert the generated content, to generate converted content (0011);

- an encryption step of encrypting the converted content using the medium key, to generate second encrypted content (0011 and 0021);

- a write step of moving the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium, and reading the device key from the storage unit and writing the read device key to the portable medium (0021); and

- a key deletion step of deleting the device key from the terminal device (0021).

Tsuria is silent in disclosing the generated converted content is unable to be restored to the content. Fukuda teaches this abovementioned limitation (col. 21, line 65-col. 22, line 40). Fukuda teaches that when a user wants to copy music to another device, the copying device deteriorates the music to prevent illegal copying of the data.

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The music is compressed to ensure exact copies are not made. Combining known prior art elements, according to known methods to yield predictable results, is obvious and within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions.

As per claim 19, Tsuria teaches wherein the key deletion step deletes the device key from the terminal device after the write step writes the device key to the portable medium (0054), and the write step moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium after the key deletion step deletes the device key from the terminal device (0058).

As per claim 20, Tsuria teaches a content movement program used in a terminal device for transferring a right to use content to a portable medium while protecting a copyright of the content, the terminal device storing first encrypted content, a device key, and a medium key, the first encrypted content being generated by encrypting the content (0009), the content movement method comprising:

a decryption step of decrypting the first encrypted content using the device key, to generate the content (0009);

a conversion unit operable to convert the generated content, to generate converted content (0011);

an encryption step of encrypting the converted content using the medium key, to generate second encrypted content (0011 and 0021);

a write step of moving the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium, and reading the device key from the storage unit and writing the read device key to the portable medium (0021); and

a key deletion step of deleting the device key from the terminal device (0021).

Tsuria is silent in disclosing the generated converted content is unable to be restored to the content. Fukuda teaches this abovementioned limitation (col. 21, line 65-col. 22, line 40). Fukuda teaches that when a user wants to copy music to another device, the copying device deteriorates the music to prevent illegal copying of the data. The music is compressed to ensure exact copies are not made. Combining known prior art elements, according to known methods to yield predictable results, is obvious and within the ordinary capabilities of one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions.

As per claim 21, Tsuria teaches wherein the key deletion step deletes the device key from the terminal device after the write step writes the device key to the portable medium (0054), and the write step moves the medium key and the second encrypted content to the portable medium after the key deletion step deletes the device key from the terminal device (0058) wherein the storage unit continues to store the first encrypted content irrespective of whether the device key has been deleted or not (0059).

As per claim 22, Tsuria is silent in explicitly disclosing the conversion unit converts the generated content which is high-image-quality content to the converted content which is low-image-quality content by reducing an amount of data of the generated content. Fukuda teaches the conversion unit converts the generated content which is high-image-quality content to the converted content which is low-image-quality content by reducing an amount of data of the generated content (col. 20, lines 30-45). Examiner relies upon the same rationale to combine Fukuda with Tsuria as recited in the rejection of claim 1.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL R. VAUGHAN whose telephone number is (571)270-7316. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:30am - 5:00pm, EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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/M. R. V./

Examiner, Art Unit 2431

/William R. Korzuch/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2431